

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-captioned application as amended.

In this amendment, claim 1 has been canceled and claims 2-14 remain pending herein for examination. Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form, and a typographical error in claim 5 has been corrected. The pending claims are fully supported by the specification.

In the Office Action dated June 18, 2004, claims 1 and 9-14 were rejected over prior art, but claims 2-8 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. As shown above, claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice, claim 2 has been rewritten in proper independent form, and the remaining claims have been amended as necessary to depend directly or indirectly from allowable claim 2. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 2-14 are allowable and that this application is now in condition for allowance.

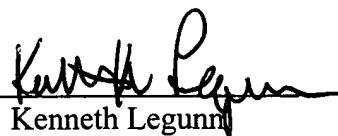
Applicants are submitting herewith an Information Disclosure Statement with the appropriate fee.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow claims 2-14 and pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted

Date: September 15, 2004

By



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9/15/04

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12 references